



State of Utah  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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December 20, 1995

Mitchell A. Lekas  
Vice President  
Lexco, Incorporated  
P. O. Box 1198  
Vernal, Utah 84108

Re: Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations, Cottonwood Mine,  
S/047/064, BLM Lease #72699), Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Lekas:

Thank you for your Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations, received by the Division on December 5, 1995. The application for the proposed Cottonwood Mine, located in the N/2 of the SW/4 and the SE/4 of the SW/4 of Section 35, T10S, R21E, SLBM, Uintah County, Utah is complete and no additional information is required at this time.

For your reference, I have enclosed copies of our summarized rules regarding "Operation and Reclamation Practices", and the statutory penalty for failure to reclaim a minesite (SMO-1). Please give special consideration to item #10 of the "Operation and Reclamation Practices." Stockpiling topsoil material prior to beginning your mining operation will help ensure successful revegetation efforts upon final reclamation of the minesite. If the area being mined is a solid rock outcrop, or if the land surface is very rocky, then soil stockpiling is probably not possible. However, even the first few inches of undeveloped material is worth saving to aid in later revegetation efforts, and future regulatory release from reclamation requirements.

For future reference, under the Division's policy for neighboring or related sites, mine operations under the same operator located within a two mile radius of one another are treated under one notice with the disturbances combined. This can have the effect of combining several "small mine" sites into a "large mine" which requires more detailed permit information and a reclamation surety. The Cottonwood mine notice is beyond two miles from your ITM mine, S/047/035, so these sites were not combined. Should you wish to expand your operation beyond the five (5) acre limitation, please notify this office as soon as possible to discuss the necessary permitting requirements.






Page 2  
Mitchell Lekas  
S/047/064  
December 20, 1995

A Memorandum of Understanding between this Division and the State Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requires us to notify them upon receipt of a mining application. If you haven't already done so, you are advised to contact their office prior to starting your small mining operation to determine whether additional permits and/or approvals are required. We will forward a copy of this letter and your notice to the DEQ for their review. Their address and phone number is: Department of Environmental Quality, 288 North 1460 West, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84116, (801) 538-6146.

Please be advised that you will also need to receive approval from the BLM prior to creating any mining disturbances described by this notice.

Thank you for your cooperation. When in the area, a member of the Division staff will examine the site. Best wishes with your mining operation.

Sincerely,



Anthony A. Gallegos  
Senior Reclamation Specialist

jb  
Enclosure  
cc: Kiran Bhayani, DWQ w/NOI  
Roger L. Bon, UGS  
Stan Perks, BLM, State Office (Lease #72699)  
Tracking File  
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